

Dustin Monroe/ Western Native Voice

Madam Chair and Committee Members, I come before you to oppose SB 405. SB 405 is a proposed legislative referendum that would **end Election Day registration** and roll back late registration to end at 5 pm Friday before Election Day.

The title of the bill, which is what will appear on the ballot in 2014 if SB 405 passes, IS TOTALLY MISLEADING AND DOES NOT REFLECT WHAT THE BILL DOES.

The title of the bill is "AN ACT PROTECTING THE INTEGRITY OF MONTANA ELECTIONS BY REVISING LATE VOTER REGISTRATION AND ENSURING COMPLIANCE WITH THE NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION ACT..." *In fact, Montana is currently in full compliance with the National Voter Registration Act. NVRA compliance is not an issue and this language will certainly be misleading to Montanans asked to vote on this change.*

This referendum, as with all referendums, will cost county taxpayers money.

The Secretary of State has estimated that the fiscal impact to the counties to place this referendum on the ballot is estimated at \$37,729. In her testimony against SB 405, Secretary McCulloch said that the 13 referenda still alive would cost almost half a million dollars statewide - \$491,000.

Native Americans and Service to this country

Names Like Specialist Lori Piestewa, Sgt Moses Rocha, Sgt. Antonio BurnSide died fighting for our rights and that includes the right to Vote. When I enlisted one of the Oaths that I took was to live the Army Values, which says " I am a guardian of freedom and the American way of life".

The problem is insufficient resources and the answer is to provide those resources, not make it harder for people to vote.

According to the Billings Gazette: "In 2008, [Yellowstone] county paid about 400 general election judges; in 2012, the total was about 225." So Yellowstone County reduced their number of election judges by 44 % in four years. Their problems of long lines in 2012 could have been addressed by restoring just a few of those over 175 judges that they thought they no longer needed.

I close with this, Native Americans were the last people allowed to vote and have showed that this system of same day voter works because of the record turnout to the Polls this year. I ask committee members to do something heroic today **and Be the Difference, people that made a difference in America never were the majority.**

VOTE NO ON SB 405

1001-X2

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Election Day Late Registrations, 2006-Present

Montana Secretary of State Linda McCulloch
 Elections and Government Services Division
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	Election Day Late Registrations on General Election Day November 6, 2012	Late Registrations on Primary Election Day June 5, 2012	Election Day Late Registrations on General Election Day Tuesday, November 2, 2010	Election Day Late Registrations on Primary Election Day Tuesday, June 8, 2010	Election Day Late Registrations on General Election Day Tuesday, November 4, 2008	Election Day Late Registrations on Primary Election Day Tuesday, June 3, 2008	Election Day Late Registrations on General Election Day Tuesday, November 7, 2006
County TOTALS	8053	1178	3735	836	7547	2679	4301
Big Horn	113	26	51	48	156	92	143
Blaine	62	6	11	3	49	13	26
Chouteau	35	9	19	8	20	12	13
Glacier	119	17	12	16	44	17	75
Hill	196	14	53	9	157	33	100
Lake	283	62	83	25	267	94	79
Pondera	41	15	22	9	29	9	14
Roosevelt	100	9	52	14	63	19	88
Rosebud	65	5	30	9	78	15	50
Sanders	61	10	19	23	77	13	32
Valley	85	3	57	3	53	12	26
total NA Counties	1160	176	409	167	993	329	646